

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 182917

EXDIS

E.O.11652:XGDS-1

TAGS: CI, PINS, PINT, MILI

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON COMMUNIST REACTION
TO CHILEAN COUP

REF: SANTIAGO 4204

1. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. FOLLOWING IS FBIS WRAPUP OF COMMUNIST PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON CHILEAN COUP FOR YOU TO GIVE TO PRESS AIDE. END CONFIDENTIAL.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. THE SOVIET UNION HAS REACTED TO THE EVENTS IN CHILE BY ISSUING A STATEMENT IN THE NAME OF THE SOVIET CENTRAL COMMITTEE THAT SHARPLY DENOUNCES "REACTIONARY FORCES" IN CHILE. THE STATEMENT, ISSUED ON 13 SEPTEMBER, SAID THESE FORCES HAD BEEN "BACKED BY FOREIGN IMPERIALIST FORCES" THROUGHOUT THE THREE YEARS OF ALLENDE'S RULE, BUT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY ACCUSE ANY OUTSIDE POWERS OF INVOLVEMENT IN THE COUP ITSELF. SOVIET MEDIA, HOWEVER, HAVE BEGUN TO USE THE DEVICE OF QUOTING THIRD PARTIES THAT HAVE ACCUSED THE US OF RESPONSIBILITY.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT ALSO EXPRESSED FULL SO-CO N F I D E N T I A L

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LIDARITY WITH LEFTIST FORCES IN CHILE AND FIRM CONFIDENCE

THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE.

BELGRADE'S REACTION, BY FAR THE SHARPEST IN EAST EUROPE, REFLECTS YUGOSLAVIA'S LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO NONALIGNMENT AND ALSO ITS SPECIAL INTEREST IN ALLENDE'S SUCCESS. TITO'S LETTER OF CONDOLENCE TO THE ALLENDE FAMILY THUS NOTED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE NEWS WITH "THE GREATEST PAIN AND HORROR," AND HE WENT ON TO PRAISE ALLENDE FOR HIS FIGHT AGAINST INTERNAL REACTION "INSTIGATED AND SUPPORTED BY INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM". THE FEDERAL PARTY EXECUTIVE BUREAU ECHOED THIS IMPLICIT ANTI-US PHRASING BY CONDEMNING THE COUP AS A "NEO-FASCIST CONSPIRACY."

ROMANIA'S "INDIGNATION" REFLECTS BOTH ITS GROWING INTEREST IN POSING AS A CHAMPION OF THE NONALIGNED WORLD AND THE FACT THAT CEAUSESCU WILL HAVE TO REARRANGE HIS ITINERARY DURING HIS CURRENT TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA. CHILE WAS TO BE HIS LAST STOP, 21-25 SEPTEMBER. IN ADDITION TO EXPRESSING "INDIGNATION," YESTERDAY'S DECLARATION BY THE ROMANIAN PARTY'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE CALLED FOR THE "IMMEDIATE CESSATION" OF "ACTS OF TERROR." SIGNIFICANTLY, HOWEVER, THE DECLARATION ONLY HINTED AT FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT, CLAIMING THAT THE COUP WAS "PROVOKED BY REACTIONARY FORCES, IN LEAGUE WITH IMPERIALISM."

THE EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE SENT TELEGRAMS TO THE GENERAL SECRETARIES OF THE COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST PARTIES OF CHILE CONVEYING FRATERNAL GREETINGS OF SOLIDARITY. IT CONDEMNED THE "FOUL" ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT ALLENDE AND SAID NEW FIGHTERS WILL ARISE FROM THE BLOOD OF FALLEN COMRADES. ACCORDING TO OTHER REPORTS, MORE THAN 100,000 PERSONS DEMONSTRATED IN ROSTOCK, LEIPZIG, AND DRESDEN IN SUPPORT OF ALLENDE.

THE FIRST REPORT FROM THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY SAYS THAT ALLENDE "DIED A MARTYR AT HIS POST IN THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE." THE COUP WAS DEPICTED AS BEING STAGED IN THE WAKE OF A TRAIN OF INCIDENTS ENGINEERED BY CERTAIN REACTIONARY FORCES AT HOME AND ABROAD TO DISRUPT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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NATION'S ECONOMIC LIFE AND SOCIAL ORDER.

CUBA, OF COURSE, HAS CONDEMNED THE COUP AS A FASCIST PLOT. FIDEL CASTRO, VISITING HANOI, SAID THAT THE PLOT WAS INITIATED IN THE US. HAVANA HAS ALSO REQUESTED AN URGENT MEETING OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER ITS COMPLAINTS THAT CHILEAN TROOPS HAD FIRED ON THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO AND THAT THE CHILEAN NAVY ATTACKED A

CUBAN MERCHANT SHIP IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS ON MONDAY.
END UNCLASSIFIED. RUSH

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